

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2847

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, MASS, NATO, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH MILITARY AID; AD HOC GROUP MEETING OF MAY 20

REF: A. USNATO 2391

B. USNATO 2149

C. STATE 108349

SUMMARY: AT MAY 20 INFORMAL MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP ON TURKISH MILITARY AID, TURKEY REP ASKED FOR ALLIED DECLARATIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO HELP TURKEY AND DECLARATIONS OF INTENT AS TO FORM SUCH ASSISTANCE WOULD TAKE. UK, FRG, ITALY AND NORWAY REPS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO HELP INsofar AS POSSIBLE. CANADA AND DENMARK REPS REFRAINED FROM GIVING SUPPORT. OTHER ALLIES EITHER DID NOT SPEAK OR WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. US REP URGED CONTINUED ALLIED SUPPORT FOR TURKEY. AD HOC GROUP WILL RECONVENE IN THREE WEEKS TO DISCUSS FURTHER ALLIED STEPS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MAY 20 INFORMAL MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP ON TURKISH MILITARY
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AAID, CHAIRMAN (ASYG HUMPHREYS) OPENED DISCUSSION BY RECAPING APRIL 29 MEETING (REF A), STATED THAT NO DELEGATION HAD APPROACHED HIM SINCE APRIL 29 WITH FURTHER INFORMATION FROM CAPITALS AND NOTED MAY 19 SENATE ACTION.

2. TURKISH REP (TOPUR) STATED THAT HE HAD ASKED FOR A LIST MORE DETAILED THAN THE PRESENT ONE (REF B) AND EXPECTED IT TO ARRIVE WITHIN TEN DAYS. HE STATED THAT HE HAD QUERIED ANKARA AS TO COORDINATION BETWEEN WORK IN THE AD HOC GROUP AND BI-LATERAL CONTACTS. ANKARA INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS REGARD WERE TO SEEK AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BY INDIVIDUAL ALLIES TO HELP TURKEY AS MUCH AS EACH ONE CAN. SUCH INDICATIONS OF SUPPORT WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A FINAL AND BINDING COMMITMENT BY ANKARA; FOR INSTANCE, ANKARA UNDERSTANDS NATIONAL RELUCTANCE TO DRAW DOWN WAR RESERVE STOCKS. ANKARA WOULD ALSO LIKE ALLIES TO INDICATE WHAT FORM (AID, SALES OR LOANS) ASSISTANCE MIGHT TAKE. HE STATED THAT AFTER THESE EXPRESSIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO HELP, ANKARA WOULD BILATERALLY APPROACH THOSE ALLIES GIVING POSITIVE RESPONSES.

3. UK REP (LEGGE) MADE INSTRUCTED STATEMENT EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING TURKISH CAPABILITY TO MEET ITS NATO OBLIGATIONS IN THE LIGHT OF THE US EMBARGO, AND WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER EACH CASE OF EQUIPMENT NEED ON ITS MERITS. ALTHOUGH THE UK COULD NOT MAKE A "CATEGORICAL DECLARATION" IN ADVANCE, UK REP ASSURED TURKISH REP THAT UK IS "PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE" TO SUPPLY THE ITEMS IT CAN TO HELP TURKEY MEET ITS NATO OBLIGATIONS. HE REITERATED POINTS MADE AT PREVIOUS AD HOC GROUP MEETING CONCERNING SMALL NUMBER OF ITEMS WHICH ARE COMMON WITH TURKISH EQUIPMENT. FINALLY, UK REP MADE TWO POINTS: 1) UK'S JUDGMENT IN EACH CASE IS BOUND TO BE INFLUENCED BY TREATMENT OF BRITISH RESIDENTS IN TURKISH-HELD PARTS OF CYPRUS; AND 2) ALTHOUGH UK WOULD MAKE ITS WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST TURKEY PUBLIC AT THE PROPER TIME, HMG WOULD BE SERIOUSLY EMBARRASSED BY A LEAK NOW. ITALY REP ((TESTOLI) STATED THAT HE HAD A LIST OF ITALIAN FIRMS WHICH COULD SELL EQUIPMENT TO TURKEY IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH

US LAW. HE DELIVERED THIS LIST TO TURKISH REP FOLLOWING MEETING. FRG REP (WELZ) NOTED THAT FRG IS ALREADY GIVING ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY, BUT IS READY TO HEAR FURTHER DETAILS ON TURKISH NEEDS, AND PROMISED BONN SUPPORT. DENMARK REP (ROSENTHAL) STATED THAT COPENHAGEN HAD CONFIDENTIAL

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STUDIED THE ORIGINAL TURKISH LIST AND "IS NOT IN A POSITION TO HELP". CANADA REP (VARTLEMAN), CITING CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN UNFICYP, STATED THAT OTTAWA MUST TAKE A POSITION OF NEUTRALITY. HE ASKED CHAIRMAN HOW AN OPEN-ENDED GROUP COULD ISSUE A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE OR OF INTENT AND ASKED THAT DPC PERMREPS LOOK AT IDEA FIRST. CHAIRMAN RESPONDED THAT REPRESENTATIVES SPEAK FOR THEIR GOVERNMENTS AT WHATEVER LEVEL. TURKISH REP STATED THAT ANKARA DOES NOT REQUIRE A GROUP DECLARATION, BUT WOULD LIKE SOME EXPRESSION FROM EACH ALLY. NETHERLANDS REP (STEINART) STATED HE WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. NORWAY REP (KLEVANCE) NOTED THAT NORWAY DOES NOT APPEAR ON ORIGINAL TURKISH LIST, BUT STATED THAT OSLO HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS PROGRAM.

4. US REP (BGEN BOWMAN) STATE THAT HE WAS PLEASED BY ACTION OF

THE SENATE MAY 19 AND HOPED THAT HOUSE WOULD FOLLOW SUIT. DRAWING FROM REF C, HE STATED THAT ALLIES MIGHT FIND THAT THEY HAD COMPANIES PRODUCING PARTS NEEDED BY TURKEY EVEN THOUGH NOT USED BY THEIR OWN FORCES. HE NOTED THAT TUR COOPERATION AMONG ALLIES AS FORESEEN IN SUCH POLICY DOCUMENTS AS MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE MUST PROVIDE FOR INSURANCE AGAINST SUCH PROBLEMS AS THE US ARMS SUSPENSION. SINCE NATO IS MADE UP OF DEMOCRACIES WE MUST EXPECT OCCASIONAL DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING COMPLETE COOPERATION, BUT WHEN ONE COUNTRY IS UNABLE TO DO ITS PART, THE OTHERS MUST TAKE UP THE SLACK. IN RESPONSE TO A UK QUESTION CONCERNING LEGAL ASPECTS OF THIRD-COUNTRY TRANSFERS, US REP NOTED THAT OUR INTERPRETATION OF PRESENT LAW HAS NOT CHANGED.

5. CHAIRMAN SUMMED UP MEETING AS A GOOD STOCK-TAKING. HE ASKED THAT REPRESENTATIVES: TAKE NOTE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF THE UK; CONTINUE TO STUDY LISTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY TURKEY; NOTE THAT ITALY WILL FORWARD A LIST TO TURKEY; AND

NOTE THE US STATEMENT ON THE LINK BETWEEN LONG-RANGE ALLIANCE COOPERATION GOALS AND SHORT-TERM ACTION TO RELIEVE TURKISH PROBLEMS. HE STATED THAT THE FACT OF EXISTENCE OF THE AD HOC GROUP WAS IN ITSELF A FORM OF DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE, AND THAT PROBLEM REMAINING IS A PRACTICAL MATTER OF AVAILABILITY OF MATERIAL AND THE TERMS UNDER WHICH IT CAN BE PROVIDED. HE STATED THAT AD HOC GROUP WOULD MEET AGAIN IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS.
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ALL NATO CAPITALS

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